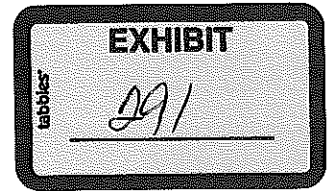


February 4, 2010



BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

FEB 04 2010

Paul E. Stacey
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Dear Mr. Stacey,

My name is Brian Johnson, Golf Course Superintendent of Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon and member of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents. I am an avid outdoorsman who loves to fish, kayak, and tube on the Farmington River. I understand how important rivers and wetlands are for not only recreation but for the quality of our environment. However, I am against the current version of the Proposed Stream Flow Standards and Regulations.

As the Golf Course Superintendent of a privately- owned facility, I am concerned for the financial impact that these regulations will have on small businesses. Blue Fox Run G.C. has recently been through the water diversion permitting process at great expense. Adding more regulations will only add to this expense and may cause some small businesses to fail if the costs are prohibitive. Small businesses are in dire need of help in this economy. They do not need regulations that will create a more difficult permitting process or demand infrastructure improvements that may not be needed.

Determine which rivers are at risk first. Classify those that are most likely to be affected by water usage. The Department of Environmental Protection can then develop a comprehensive plan to manage Connecticut rivers and streams. This should help keep the cost reasonable for golf courses and other small businesses which are vital to the economy of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian M. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brian M. Johnson
Golf Course Superintendent
Blue Fox Run G.C.
65 Nod Rd.
Avon, CT 06001